

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and the listing of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended)      An electronic system comprising

a system to be monitored having a plurality of output signals,

a plurality of fault-monitoring devices each of which is adapted to have a respective first input from the system to be monitored and an output for outputting a fault signal when a respective first input indicates that the system to be monitored is in a fault condition, wherein:

the fault-monitoring devices are arranged in a cascade fashion, a fault-monitoring device having a second input connected to the output of a preceding fault-monitoring device; and

the electronic system is being adapted to cause the first induce a fault-monitoring device of the cascade to detect a fault and to output a fault signal, which signal is cascaded such that a fault signal output from one fault-monitoring device is provided as an input to the second input of a subsequent fault-monitoring device in the cascade of fault-monitoring devices to simulate a fault condition associated with the subsequent fault-monitoring device, and

the output of a final fault-monitoring device in the cascade is used as an indicator of a fault in one of the fault-monitoring devices; and

the electronic system being arranged to determine whether there is a fault with a fault-monitoring device by being arranged to create a record of a fault from the output of the final

fault-monitoring device, the absence of a record being created when the electronic system induces a fault signal output signifying a fault in one of the fault-monitoring devices.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) An electronic system according to claim 1, the electronic system further being arranged to:

place the electronic system into a first fault condition and monitor for a generation of a first fault signal from a first fault-monitoring device,

on the generation of a first fault signal from the fault-monitoring device after placing the electronic system into a first fault condition, to input the first fault signal to the second fault-monitoring device, and

in response to an output from a final fault-monitoring device to store a record to this effect in non-volatile memory.

4. (Previously Presented) An electronic system according to claim 3 wherein, on subsequent reversion of the electronic system to a non-fault condition, the electronic system is arranged to check whether the non-volatile memory includes a record and when the non-volatile memory does not include a record on a subsequent reversion, generate an alarm signal.

5. (Previously Presented) An electronic system according to claim 1 wherein a first fault-monitoring device is adapted to output a fault signal when the electronic system is placed into a switched-off condition.

6. (Previously Presented) An electronic system according to claim 5 wherein the first fault-monitoring device is a watch-dog system.

7. (Original) An electronic system according to claim 5 wherein the electronic system is associated with a vehicle and the electronic system is placed into a switched-off condition by turning an ignition key.

8. (Previously Presented) An electronic system according to claim 5 wherein a second fault-monitoring device has as an input the fault signal from the first fault-monitoring device, the second fault-monitoring system being adapted to output a fault signal when the electronic system experiences an under- or over-voltage condition.

9. (Previously Presented) An electronic system according to claim 1 further comprising storing a record of a fault signal output by any of the fault-monitoring devices to enable identification of a defective fault-monitoring device.

10. (Currently Amended) A self-test method for an electronic system comprising a system to be monitored having a plurality of output signals, a plurality of fault-monitoring devices each of which is adapted to have a respective first input from the system to be monitored and an output for outputting a fault signal when a respective first input indicates that the system to be monitored is in a fault condition, the fault-monitoring devices being arranged in a cascade fashion, each fault monitoring device having a second input connected to the output of a preceding fault-monitoring device, and the electronic system is being adapted to cause the first induce a fault monitoring device of the cascade to detect a fault and to output a fault signal, which signal is cascaded such that a fault signal output from one fault monitoring device is provided as an input to the second input of a subsequent fault-monitoring device in the cascade of fault-monitoring devices, the method comprising:

inputting the fault signal from one fault-monitoring device to a subsequent fault-monitoring device to simulate a fault condition associated with the subsequent fault-monitoring device, wherein

the output of a final fault-monitoring device in the cascade is used as an indicator of a fault in one of the fault-monitoring devices.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) A self-test method according to claim 10, further comprising:

placing the electronic system into a first fault condition and monitoring for a generation of a first fault signal from a first fault-monitoring device,

on the generation of a first fault signal from the fault-monitoring device after placing the electronic system into a first fault condition, inputting the first fault signal to the second fault-monitoring device, and

in response to an output from a final fault-monitoring device storing a record to this effect in non-volatile memory.

13. (Previously Presented) A self-test method according to claim 12 further comprising, on subsequent reversion of the electronic system to a non-fault condition, checking whether the non-volatile memory includes a record and when the non-volatile memory does not include a record on subsequent reversion, generating an alarm signal.

14. (Previously Presented) A self-test method according to claim 10 further comprising outputting a fault signal from the first fault-monitoring device when the electronic system is placed into a switched-off condition.

15. (Previously Presented) A self-test method according to claim 14 wherein the first fault-monitoring device is a watch-dog system.

16. (Previously Presented) A self-test method according to claim 14 wherein the electronic system is associated with a vehicle and the electronic system is placed into a switched-off condition by turning an ignition key.

17. (Currently Amended) An electronic system according to claim 14 wherein a second fault-monitoring device has as an input the fault signal from the first fault-monitoring device, the second fault-monitoring system being adapted to output a fault signal when the electronic system experiences an under- or over-voltage condition.

18. (Previously Presented) A self-test method according to claim 10 further comprising storing a record of a fault signal output by any of the fault-monitoring devices to enable identification of a defective fault-monitoring device.

19 – 32. (Cancelled)